MARCH 15, 1776. THE NUMBER 59.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

ALWAYS FOR LIBERTY AND THE PUBLICK GOOD.

ALEXANDER PURDIE, PRINTER.

HOUSE *of* LORDS, Saturday, *Nov.* 11.

THE Lords were yesterday assembled for the purposes of examining governour Penn, and of discussing a motion which the duke of Richmond proposed to ground on such information as that gentleman should afford the House. Previous to the calling of mr. Penn to the bar, the duke of Richmond announced the mode he had adopted preparatory to the governour's examination. His grace confessed, "that he had apprised mr. Penn of the questions which would be propounded to him; but the noble duke disclaimed having entered into any sort of conversation with the governour, lest such conversation should be malevolently construed into a design of anticipating the answers mr. Penn might think proper to return." The duke of Richmond having finished his preliminary remarks, mr. Penn was called to the bar, and interrogated nearly to the following purport:

Q. How long had he resided in America?

A. Four years, two of those years in the capacity of governour of Pennsylvania.

Q. Was he acquainted with any of the members of the Continental Congress?

A. He was personally acquainted with all the members of the Congress

Q. In what estimation was the Congress held?

A. In the highest veneration imaginable by all ranks and orders of men.

Q. Was an implicit obedience paid to the resolutions of that Congress throughout all the provinces?

A. He believed this to be the case.

Q. How many men had been raised throughout the province of Pennsylvania?

A. Twenty thousand effective men had voluntarily enrolled themselves to enter into actual service, if necessity required.

Q. Of what rank, quality, and condition, were these persons?

A. Men of the most respectable characters in the province.

Q. Was not a considerable number of them entirely destitute of property?

A. It was presumed that, substracted from so large a number as 20,000, there were some necessitous, but the major part were in flourishing situations.

Q. Besides those 20,000 who voluntarily enrolled themselves to act as exigencies might require, what other forces had the provincials of Pennsylvania raised?

A. Four thousand minute-men, whose duty was pointed out by their designation; they were to be ready for service at a minute's warning.

Q. Did the province of Pennsylvania grow corn sufficient for the supply of its inhabitants?

A. Much more than sufficient; there was a surplus for exportation, if required.

Q. Were they capable of making gunpowder in Pennsylvania?

A. They perfectly well understood the art, and had effected it.

Q. Could saltpetre be made in the province?

A. It could; mills, and other instruments for effecting such an undertaking, had been erected with success.

Q. Could cannon be cast in Pennsylvania?

A. The art of casting cannon had been carried to great perfection; they were amply furnished with iron for the purpose.

Q. Could small-arms be made to any degree of perfection?

A. To as great a degree of perfection as could be imagined; the workmanship employed in finishing the small-arms was universally admired for its excellence.

Q. Were the Americans expert in shipbuilding?

A. More so than the Europeans.

Q. To what extent of tunnage did the largest of their shipping amount?

A. A ship of about 300 tuns was the largest they were known to build.

Q. Circumstanced as things at present were, did the witness think that the language of the Congress expressed the sense of the people of America in general?

A. As far as the question applied to Pennsylvania, he was sure this was the case; for the other provinces, he replied in the affirmative, from information only.

Q. Did he suppose that the Congress contained delegates fairly nominated by the choice of the people?

A. He had no doubt but that the Congress did contain delegates chosen under this description.

Q. By what mode were the delegates in Congress appointed?

A. By the votes of assemblies in some places, by ballot in others.

Q. In what light had the petition, which the witness had presented to the king, been considered by the Americans?

A. The petition had been considered as an olive branch, and the witness had been complimented by his friends, as the messenger of peace.

Q. On the supposition that the prayer of this petition should be rejected, what did the witness imaginge would be the consequence?

A. That the Americans, who placed much reliance on the petition, would be driven to desperation by its non-success.

Q. Did the witness imagine, that, sooner than yield to what were supposed to be the unjust claims of Great Britain, the Americans would take the desperate resolution of calling in the aid of foreign assistance?

A. The witness was apprehensive that this would be the case.

Q. What did the witness recollect of the stamp act?

A. That it caused great uneasiness throughout America.

Q. What did the witness recollect concerning the repeal of that act?

A. The anniversary of that memorable day is kept throughout America, by every testimony of publick rejoicing, such as bonefires, illuminations, and other exhibitions of gladness.

Q. Would not the neglect with which the last petition was treated induce the Americans to resign all hopes of pacifick negotiations?

A. In the opinion of the witness, it would?

Q. When the witness presented the petion to the secretary of state, was he asked any questions relative to the state of America?

A. Not a single question.

Cross-examined by the Lords DENBIGH *and* SANDWICH.

Queries from Lord DENBIGH.

As the witness has acted in capacity of governour, was he well acquainted with the charter of Pennsylvania?

A. He had read the charter, and was well acquainted with its contents.

Q. Did he know that there was a clause which specifically subjected the colony to taxation by the British legislature?

A. He was well apprised that there was such a clause.

Q. Were the people of Pennsylvania content with their charter?

A. Perfectly content.

Q. Then did they not acquiesce in the right of the British parliament to enforce taxation?

A. They acquiesced in a declaration of the right so long as they experienced no inconvenience from the declaration.

QUERIES *from Lord* SANDWICH.

Had the witness ever heard of an act entitled the *Declaratory Act?*

A. He had heard of such an act.

Q. Did he ever peruse, and was he sufficiently acquainted with the contents of that act?

A. He never had perused it. It never had been much discussed whilst he resided in America?

Q. Did the witness apprehend that the Congress acquiesced in an act which maintained the authority of the British parliament in all cases whatsoever?

Objected to, and the witness was desired to withdraw; but being called in again, the question was put, and he replied, that, except in the case of taxation, he apprehended the Americans would have no objection to acknowledge the sovereignty of Great Britain.

Q. Had the witness any knowledge of certain resolutions passed by the county of Suffolk.

A. He had not attended to them.

Q. Had the witness any knowledge of an answer given by the Continental Congress to what had been commonly called lord North's conciliatory motion?

A. The witness knew nothing of the proceedings of the Congress; they were generally transacted under the seal of secrecy.

Q. Was the witness personally acquainted with mr. HANCOCK, a member of the Congress?

A. The witneſs knew him well.

Q. What character did he bear?

A. A very reſpectable one.

Q. Had the witneſs ever heard of any perſons who had ſuffered perſecutions for declaring ſentiments favourable to the ſupremacy of the Britiſh parliament?

A. He had heard of ſuch oppreſſions in other provinces, but never met with them during his reſidence in Pennſylvania.

Q. In the opinion of the witneſs, were the Americans now free?

A. They imagine themſelves to be ſo.

Q. In caſe a formidable force ſhould be ſent to America, in ſupport of government, did the witneſs imagine there were many who would openly proteſs ſubmiſſion to the authority of parliament?

A. The witneſs apprehended the few who would join on ſuch an occaſion would be too trivial a number to be of any conſequence.

Mr. Penn was then ordered to withdraw, and the duke of Richmond, after deſcanting with ſingular propriety on the neceſſity of immediate conciliation, propoſed the laſt petition from the Continental Congreſs to the King as a baſis for a plan of accommodation. His grace of Richmond moved, "that the preceding paper furniſhed grounds of conciliation of the unhappy differences at preſent ſubſiſting between Great Britain and America, and that ſome mode ſhould be immediately adopted for the effectuating ſo deſirable a purpoſe."

This produced a debate, ſupported on both ſides with infinite ingenuity. The numbers were, for the motion 27, proxies 6, total 33; againſt the motion 50, proxies 36, total 86; majority againſt the motion, 53.

LONDON, *Nov.* 22.

LETTERS juſt received in town from Spain adviſe, that the moſt amazing warlike preparations are now carrying on in that country. At Madrid, orders are given to preſs 15,000 men, and half the king's houſehold troops have received orders to be in readineſs to march on the ſhorteſt notice.

The government plan of negotiation with America is to be conducted in the following manner; 36 commiſſioners are to be ſent to America veſted with ample powers to treat for peace, or puſh on a war to the utmoſt extremity. Each of theſe commiſſioners will have 4000l. allotted, as a douceur for tranſacting the buſineſs. Thus the nation will be burthened with an additional expenſe, at a time when every ſaving ſhould be made to alleviate the calamities of a ſinking country.

Extract of a letter from Chatham, *Nov.* 18.

"The following ſhips are now fitting out at this port, with all poſſible deſpatch, for America, viz. Jerſey 60 guns, Iſis 50, Brune 32, Blond 32, Repulſe 32, Flora 32, Emerald 32, Milford 28, and Carysfort 28."

The ſeven regiments reported to be ſailed from Ireland are, it is ſaid, gone with ſeven men of war to Virginia, to reſent the treatment on lord Dunmore. They are to burn every place within ſhot of the ſhips on the coaſt.

Houſe of Commons, Nov. 27. This day, a few minutes after 3 o'clock, mr. alderman Oliver made his motion; he was ſeconded by the lord mayor of London. It was couched in the following terms: "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his majeſty, requeſting that his majeſty would be graciouſly pleaſed to impart to the Houſe who were the original authors and adviſers of the following meaſures, before they were propoſed by parliament: The taxing America without conſent of its aſſemblies, for the purpoſe of raiſing a revenue; for the extending the juriſdiction of the courts of admiralty and vice-admiralty; for taking away the charter of the province of Maſſachuſetts Bay; for reſtraining the American fiſhery; for exempting murderers from trial in America; for tranſporting accuſed coloniſts to England to be tried for offences committed in America; and, more eſpecially, for eſtabliſhing Popery and deſpotiſm in Canada." A little after 6 the main queſtion was put, and it was rejected on a diviſion, 163 againſt it, and 10 for it.

The 33d regiment of foot, of which lord Cornwallis is colonel, is ordered for America, inſtead of the 53d. Lord Cornwallis is to command the expedition to South Carolina and Virginia.

No leſs a ſum than 700,000l. is appointed for ſecret ſervice money for the year 1776.

The imports and exports at the cuſtom-houſe the laſt month fell ſhort as follows: Imports 7000l. Exports 13,270l.

A letter from Dublin ſays: "By letters from Sligo, we have the melancholy account of ſeveral ſhips wrecked upon the north coaſt of this kingdom, and among the number a tranſport, which contained three companies of the 46th regiment, bound for America."

Nov. 25. The principal outlines of the plan adopted for the ſpring campaign in America are the following: The army is to be increaſed to 20,000 effective men. Detachments from this army are to be ſent to New York, Virginia, and ſome of the other provinces. The forces being thus diſtributed, a general attack will enſue; and whilſt attempts are made to harraſs the provincials by land, the ſhips of war will be actively employed in ſcouring the American ſeas, and cutting off all means of ſuccour.

Six new regiments of foot, we are informed, are going to be raiſed, with all poſſible deſpatch.

The new plan of the American war in ſpring is to burn every thing on the coaſt, to withdraw the army, and interrupt all veſſels that trade thereto.

Letters of marque are now ſaid to be making out at the admiralty office, ready to ſign as ſoon as ever the new American bill takes place.

A bill is preparing, and will be hurried through both Houſes, for condemning the veſſels of all nations which are found trading with America. Many have been already taken, but it is not determined that they ſhall be for the uſe of the captors, or the ſtate; the latter, it is expected, will ſecure the emoluments, under the idea of reimburſing government for their amazing expenſe.

Nov. 30. A Hamburg merchant has received advice from his correſpondent, that two agents are employed at Hamburg and Bremen to take up tranſports there to bring over 5000 Germans to Great Britain, whom general Scheiter has been raiſing for ſome time paſt, by order of his Britannick majeſty, ſovereign of the grand American empire.

A 90 gun ſhip is ordered to be fitted up with all ſpeed, in the moſt commodious manner, for the reception of the commiſſioners, who ſoon after Chriſtmas are to embark for America, to ſettle the terms for reconciliation between them and England.

Houſe of Commons, Dec. 1. On the ſecond reading of lord North's bill for prohibiting all trade and intercourſe with the coloniſes in rebellion, the following clauſe was objected to by the gentlemen in oppoſition: "That all ſhips and veſſels of, or belonging to, the inhabitants of the colonies (wherever the ſame ſhall be found) together with their cargoes, apparel, and furniture, and all other ſhips whatever, with their cargoes, apparel, and furniture, which ſhall be found trading in any port or place of the ſaid colonies, or going to trade, or coming from trading, in any ſuch port or places, ſhall become [a blank for confiſcated] to his majeſty, as if the ſame were the ſhips and effects of open enemies, and ſhall be ſo adjudged, deemed, and taken, in all courts of admiralty, and in all other courts whatever." This they conſidered as a cruel declaration of war againſt the Americans, which will fruſtrate all plans of reconciliation. It was likewiſe urged, that the ſending commiſſioners to treat, if this bill is to paſs into a law, would be an idle and expenſive meaſure; that the bill was of a piece with all thoſe other oppreſſive and irritating acts which had rouſed the colonies to reſiſtance; we firſt forbad their intercourſe with any other nation, and were now about to put the finiſhing ſtroke to their accumulated injuries, by cutting off their intercourſe even with ourſelves; that this would ſtimulate them to publiſh that code of laws which we were certain they had prepared; that, exaſperated beyond all degree of forbearance, they would immediately declare themſelves a free and independent people, and throw open their ports to all nations, by which we might, in all probability, be involved in the difficulties of a foreign war, at that critical moment when we were moſt torn with civil broils and domeſtick diſtraction. Adminiſtration remarked the inconſiſtency of the arguments advanced on the other ſide of the Houſe: When an army was to be voted, an army would be certainly ineffectual; it would be much more expedient to withdraw our troops, and carry on a *naval* war *only;* and now that bill was brought in, to give greater effect to our naval operations, they were as warm againſt that meaſure as they had been againſt the army; that in ſhort they ſeem to have but one object in view, that of impeding every meaſure of adminiſtration, right or wrong. Whatever force this argument might have, it was ſupported by one ſtill more effectual, a majority of near four to one; for, on the diviſion, there were for the bill 207 againſt it 57. The bill was then read a ſecond time, and committed for Tueſday next, after which the Houſe adjourned to Monday.

WILLIAMSBURG, *March* 15.

At a committee held for Nanſemond *county, at the houſe of* John Aſpray *in* Suffolk *town, on* Wedneſday *the* 22*d of* November 1775, *preſent* Williamſon, *chairman, and* 11 *members.*

BETSEY HUNTER being ſummoned to appear before this committee, for writing certain letters to her mother, and brother (John Hunter, of Norfolk) informing them of the ſituation of our guards in this county, that the people were in arms at Suffolk and Smithfield, and that our troops were croſſing the river on their march down here, and many other matters of importance, the ſaid Betſey Hunter appeared, and ſaid, that ſhe did not intend them as letters of intelligence, but wrote them for her amuſement. The committee, having heard the letters read, are of opinion that they were intended as letters of intelligence, and inimical to the American cauſe.

Ordered therefore, that the ſaid Betſey Hunter, with Mary and Martha Wilkinſons (who were privy to and aſſiſting in the ſaid letters, and were alſo ſummoned to appear before this committee) be advertiſed in the publick papers, and looked on as enemies to America.

LEMUEL GODWIN, clerk.

WHEREAS I ſome time ago bargained with *James Flynn* for a piece of land lying in *Mecklenburg* county, and as a conſideration for which gave my bond for 70l. payable the 10th day of *January* 1776; and whereas I have ſince diſcovered it will be with difficulty, and perhaps totally out of the power of ſaid *Flynn*, to make me a lawful title to ſaid land, this is therefore to forewarn all perſons whatſoever from taking an aſſignment of ſaid bond, as I will not pay the amount till I am ſatisfied with my right.

JOHN FLYNN.

FIGURE will ſtand at my plantation on *Allen's* creek, in *Mecklenburg* county, where mr. *Macharg* keeps ſtore, and will cover mares at 5l. the ſeaſon. A very extenſive paſture, well ſet with timothy and clover, and under as good fence as any in the colony, is prepared for the mares; and notwithſtanding I verily believe there is little danger of a mare's eſcaping, or being hurt in any reſpect whatever, I do not chooſe to make myſelf liable. *Figure* was got by old *Figure*, an imported horſe of doctor *Hamilton's*, of *Maryland*, out of mr. *Brent's* running mare *Ebony; Ebony* was got by *Othello*, out of mr. *Tasker's* imported mare *Selima*.

PEYTON SKIPWITH.

MECKLENBURG, *March* 6, 1776.

JOLLY ROGER will ſtand this ſeaſon at the ſubſcriber's, in *Mecklenburg*, to cover mares at 3l. the ſeaſon, or 18s. the leap. The money for the ſeaſon may be diſcharged by the payment of 40s. before the laſt day of *Auguſt* next, and not after; for the leap money, no credit will be given. I have fine paſtures, well fenced, and, great care ſhall be taken of mares, but I will not be anſwerable for any that may get away. *Jolly Roger* (not long ſince the property of mr. *Peter Stoner*) was got by *Jolly Roger*, his dam by *Dabſter*, his grandam was the noted *Mary Grey*, imported by *Ralph Wormeley*, eſq; remarkable for her ſpeed.

FRANCIS RUFFIN.

MACARONI,

A FULL blooded horſe (the property of mr. *Thomas Anderſon* and myſelf) ſtands at my houſe in *Albemarle* county, on *James* river, and will cover mares at 30s. the ſeaſon, to be paid on or before the laſt day of *July* next; or, if not ſo paid, at 40s. the ſeaſon. Good paſturage for mares gratis, and the greateſt care will be taken of them, but I will not be anſwerable for any loſt or ſtolen. *Macaroni* is a dark bay, bred by col. *John Baylor* of *Caroline*, got by old *Fearnought*, his dam by *Jolly Roger*, his grandam by *Whittington*, his great grandam by *Shock*, ſold by *John Baylor*, eſquire. He is near 4 feet 11 inches high, well made, and as complete a horſe as any on the continent, and now in high perfection for covering.

WILLIAM BECKHAM.

ROWANTY, *March* 1, 1776.

THE noted horſe *OLD PARTNER*, as vigorous as ever he was, will cover mares this ſeaſon at my houſe in *Dinwiddie*, about 16 miles from *Peterſburg*, on the main road from thence to *Halifax* town, at the low prices, (having conſidered the ſcarcity of money) of 3l. the ſeaſon, and 20s. the leap. The leap money to be in hand; if booked, 30s. Thoſe whom I know to be careful may have the pregnancy of their mares enſured for 6l. Excellent paſturage, under very ſtrong fences, and entertainment for ſervants attending mares, gratis. The greateſt attention will be paid to the mares, but I cannot be anſwerable for eſcapes and theſts.

(5) ROBERT SKIPWITH.

JUNIUS, a beautiful bay, 6 years old next *June*, of an elegant form, and 15 hands high, now ſtands in *Prince Edward* county, to cover mares the enſuing ſpring, at 20s. the leap, 40s. the ſeaſon, or 4l. the enſurance. *Junius* was got by *Yorick*, his dam by *Othello*, his grandam by *Monkey*, his great grandam a mare of the old *Spaniſh* breed, called *Merry Laſs*. Thoſe who favour us with their cuſtom will be provided with good paſturage gratis, and may rely on the utmoſt care being taken of their mares; but we will not be anſwerable for any that may get away, and are ſtolen.

(4) WILLIAM WATTS.
EDWARD WATTS.

CABIN POINT, *March* 1, 1776.

ALL *perſons are hereby informed, that I have juſt completed my FULLING MILL, which ſuffered in the ſtorm of* September *laſt. She is now at work, and thoſe perſons who have ſo patiently waited for their cloth I can but acknowledge their goodneſs, apprehending it proceeds from intentions to encourage me in this ſo beneficial an undertaking. I aſſure all ſuch, that the utmoſt attention ſhall be paid to them. Any inſtructions which may come from thoſe perſons who have cloth now in my poſſeſſion, or thoſe who may employ me, ſhall be punctually obſerved. I have ſeveral WEAVERS, as well woollen as linen; therefore any kind of weaving may be done by ſending me a pattern of what is wanting, and the thread or yarn. The price will be as reaſonable as any maſter weaver will execute the ſame work for. It is to be obſerved, that I work for caſh or commodities in hand, before I deliver the cloth, from the date hereof; ſo that neither a friend nor ſtranger need expect any indulgence, the carrying on this buſineſs being attended with much trouble, labour, and expenſe, which renders it highly neceſſary for me to receive the caſh, or diſcount to thoſe I am indebted.*

(1) *WILLIAM SIMMONS.*

N. B. *I have ſeveral farms to rent; a blackſmith would anſwer for one of them.*

CHARLES CITY, *March* 1, 1776.

ROMULUS ſtands at the *Indian Fields* this ſeaſon, and will cover mares at 40s. 4l. to enſure, and 12s. 6d. the leap, which is to be paid down. Notes of hand will be taken for the ſeaſon money or enſurance, payable *October* 25, 1776, before the mares are taken away. *Romulus* was got by *Mark Anthony* (whoſe blood is well known) out of *Pompadour*, a fine full blooded mare. He is a beautiful ſorrel, and within half an inch of 15 hands high, well made, and 5 years old this ſpring.

(4) JOHN TYLER.

CUMBERLAND, *March* 6, 1776.

MR. *William Cole*, of *Charles City* county, having executed a power of attorney to me, to tranſact his buſineſs in general, I requeſt the favour of all perſons who have any demands againſt him to be ſpeedy in making them known, that I may be enabled to judge whether the profits of his eſtate are ſufficient to diſcharge them; and afford a comfortable maintenance to his family. Thoſe who are indebted to him are requeſted to make immediate payment to

EDMUND LOGWOOD.

NEW KENT, *March* 1, 1776.

TO be rented, by applying to the ſubſcriber; the plantation of the late *Daniel Lyon*, deceaſed. The ſaid plantation is ſituated about two miles from *St. Peter's* church, ſix miles above the court-houſe, two miles from two very good mills, and has a very convenient dwelling-houſe, kitchen, and other out-houſes, with an extraordinary apple and peach orchard of the beſt of fruit. There are 25 buſhels of wheat ſowed on the ſaid plantation, under a good fence. The terms may be known, and the plantation ſhewn, by applying to

WILLIAM MOSS, executor.

NORTH RIVER, GLOUCESTER *county*, *March* 4, 1776.

THE *beautiful high bred cheſtnut horſe DAMON, full 5 feet 5 inches high, and well proportioned, now riſing* 8 *years old, and in the higheſt perfection, ſtands at my plantation in* Glouceſter, *and will cover mares at* 4l *the ſeaſon, or* 30s. *the leap. The gentlemen who ſend mares to him muſt ſend the money, or a promiſſory note payable on demand, otherwiſe they will not be received I have very fine paſtures for the mares, and will have great care taken of them, but will not be lable for any that may ſtray away.*

(6) *MANN PAGE, jun.*

THE ſubſcriber begs leave to inform the publick, that he has taken the *TAVERN* at *AYLETT's*, where no pains or expenſe will be ſpared to accommodate travellers in the beſt manner, having laid in a large ſtock of the beſt liquors, and has had the houſe repaired, and comfortable rooms, with fire-places, for lodgers, provided. Thoſe who will be pleaſed to favour him with their company may be aſſured of the beſt entertainment, and will oblige their obedient ſervant,

ADAM BIRD.

*** Mr. *Bird* has been ſome time in a publick way, and has been ſo remarkable for keeping a good houſe that I was at ſome pains to prevail on him to take this place, and can warrant for his giving ſatisfaction.

WILLIAM AYLETT.

FOR SALE,

A TRACT of land in *James City*, containing 550 acres, which is well timbered, and within five miles of *Williamſburg*. For terms apply to

(4) JOHN TYLER.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

A *GOOD HOSTLER. Such a one coming well recommended, for diligence and ſobriety, will have good wages from*

ROBERT ANDERSON.

RUN *or STOLEN away from the ſubſcriber in* Weſtmoreland *county, the firſt week in* December 1775, *a negro man named WILL, by trade a blackſmith. He is a large raw-boned able fellow, about* 5 *feet* 8 *or* 9 *inches high, and about* 35 *years of age. He has a long face, large mouth, thick lips, low forehead, and ſmall ears, his upper fore teeth project over his under lip; he ſpeaks ſlow, and generally with a grinning ſmile, eſpecially when anſwering a queſtion; he has a large ſcar upon his right leg; and a ſmall burnt ſpot on his right cheek, near his temple. His cotton jacket and breeches were old (being thoſe he had laſt year) and a new pair of ſhoes. He is fond of liquor, but never was guilty of running away before. And as there was a pilot boat and large flat oyſtering near to my plantation at the time of his elopement, and the ſaid negro likewiſe being oyſtering for me, I have reaſon to ſuſpect that ſome of the perſons belonging to the pilot boat, or flat, have enticed him away, by making him drunk, or otherwiſe.*

The perſons belonging to the pilot boat were James Sim *and* John Sim, *who live on* Wicomico, *in* Northumberland *county; but carried their oyſters to* Port Tobacco; *in* Maryland, *to ſell.*

The perſons in the flat were John Davis, John Way, *and* Daniel Forgey. *I underſtand they live in* Dumfries, *and that the flat belongs to old* Forgey, *in or near the ſame place, and, as I am informed, carried their oyſters there to ſell. Whoever brings the ſaid negro to me, or ſecures him ſo that I get him again, ſhall have TEN DOLLARS reward, beſides what the law allows; and upon conviction of the thief,* 20*l. reward.*

(6) *GEORGE TURBERVILLE.*

COMMITTED to *Warwick* county jail, the 26th of laſt month, a negro man ſlave who ſays his name is *JEMMY*, and that he belongs to *John Edwards* of *Cheſterfield* county, on *Appamattox*. He is a luſty black fellow, appears to have been much whipped, and is remarkably bow-legged. The owner is deſired to pay charges, and take him away.

RICHARD ALLEN, jailer.

TAKEN up in *Bedford*, on *Otter* river, a bay horſe with a blaze face, three white feet, and a glaſs eye. He is about 10 years old, 4 feet 4 or 5 inches high, has ſome ſaddle ſpots, paces and trots, and is branded on the near ſhoulder O. Poſted, and appraiſed to 10l.

THOMAS CLARK.

To be SOLD,

A TRACT of land in *Brunſwick* county, lying on the *Three Creeks*, the ſoil of which is very good for tobacco, corn, and wheat. It is very well timbered, and in good order for cropping. There are on the land good dwelling-houſes, barns, &c. with a good apple and peach orchard, and convenient to church and mills. The terms will be made eaſy to the purchaſer, and the land ſhewn by applying to the ſubſcriber, living on the premiſes.

(1) JOSEPH CARTER.

To be SOLD, at the late dwelling-houſe of *George Dudley*, deceaſed, in *Glouceſter* county, on *Wedneſday* the 20th of this inſtant, if fair, otherwiſe next fair day,

SUNDRY *houſehold and kitchen furniture, horſes, cattle, hogs, and ſheep; alſo ſeveral likely NEGROES. Ready money will be expected for all ſums under* 20*s. and for thoſe above* 12 *months credit will be allowed, upon giving bond and ſecurity; which, if not punctually paid, muſt carry intereſt from the date.---Thoſe who have demands againſt the eſtate of the ſaid* Dudley *are deſired to make them known, before, or on the day of ſale. to the*

THE ADMINISTRATORS.

MARCH 4, 1776.

*** *At the ſame time, and place, will be ſold for ready money, two valuable BLACKSMITHS.*

To be *SOLD* to the higheſt bidders, on Wedneſday the 27th inſtant (*March*) at the late reſidence of mr. *James Barns*, deceaſed, in *Suſſex* county,

THE *perſonal eſtate of* Richard Barns, *conſiſting of houſehold furniture, ſeveral valuable horſes (amongſt them two blooded colts) a large ſtock of cattle, hogs, and ſheep, with a conſiderable quantity of corn, fodder*, &c. *Credit will be allowed till the* 21*ſt of* December *next, the purchaſers giving bond and approved ſecurity. At the ſame time, and place, will be hired out, until the firſt day of* January *next ſeveral SLAVES, belonging to the orphans of the ſaid* Barns. *Bond with approved ſecurity will be required, by*

THE EXECUTORS.

LUNENBURG, *March* 4, 1776.

NOTICE *is hereby given, to all whom it may concern, that I ſhall ſet out ſoon for* South Carolina, *where I expect to receive ſome money, to pay my juſt debts; but ſhould that ſcheme miſcarry, I propoſe trading in horſes, between ſome parts of* North Carolina *and* Virginia, *to accompliſh this deſirable purpoſe.*

EDWARD THWEATT.

RUN away laſt *Monday* morning, a negro fellow named JACK, formerly the property of mr. *Joſeph Scrivener* of this city. He is of a yelloviſh complexion, a ſtrong luſty fellow, 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, about 26 years old, and is a very good carter. He is well clad in new coat, waiſtcoat, and breeches, of red duffil, and has a new gray fearnought great coat. He is ſuppoſed to be lurking in this town, or about the *Capitol Landing*, where he was bred. Whoever apprehends the ſaid fellow, and delivers him to me, ſhall have 20s. reward, if taken near town; but if at any conſiderable diſtance, I will give 3l.

ALEX: PURDIE.

TAKEN up on mr. *Alexander M'Caul's* plantation, in *Henrico* County, a bay horſe about 10 years old, 4 feet 6 inches high, which ſtray came to the ſaid plantation ſome time laſt fall, and has a ſtar in his forehead, but no perceivable brand. Poſted, and appraiſed to 9l.

TURNER SOUTHALL.

To be SOLD to the higheſt bidder, purſuant to the laſt will and teſtament of Alexander Brown, *deceaſed, at* Prince Edward *courthouſe, on* Monday *the* 13*th of* April *next, being court day,*

FOUR hundred acres of land in *Prince Edward* county, lying between *Buſh* and *Brier* rivers, and on both ſides of the main road that leads from *More's* ordinary to *Prince Edward* cour houſe. Twelve months credit will be allowed, the purchaſer giving bond, with approved ſecurity, to

THE EXECUTORS.

FOR SALE,

A TEAM and HORSES; alſo a young, healthy, ſtout NEGRO CARTER. For terms inquire of the printer.

CABIN POINT, *March* 2, 1776.

I WILL give good wages for a journeyman SHOEMAKER, either by the month or year, as we can agree,

(2) FRANCIS MORELAND.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

A YOUNG man, a BRICKLAYER, who is a good workman. Such a one, by coming well recommended to the ſubſcriber, living at *New Kent* courthouſe, will meet with good encouragement for all next ſeaſon.

2 THOMAS WARREN.

FEARNOUGHT ſtands at *Hicks's Ford*, in *Brunſwick* county, to cover mares at 40s. the ſingle cover ready money, or 6l. the ſeaſon, payable in *October* next. Good paſturage, and entertainment for gentlemens ſervants, gratis; but I will not be liable for any mares that may be ſtolen, or ſtray away.

WILLIAM EDWARDS.

To be SOLD, or RENTED,

A TRACT of land in *Mecklenburg*, on the branches of *Blueſtone* creek and *Roanoke* river; it contains between 6 and 700 acres of very good high land, with a good plantation and ſeveral houſes thereon, which was occupied laſt year by mr. *Thacker Burwell*. For terms apply to mr. *Samuel Burks*, in *Prince Edward*.

ROBERT DONALD.

WARWICK, *Feb* 21, 1776.

WARWICK, *February* 20, 1776.

I PURPOSE leaving the colony ſoon. Thoſe to whom I am indebted, or who have any demands againſt *Archibald Lundie*, are deſired to apply for payment. Mr. *Michael Coulter*, at this place, will ſatisfy thoſe who may not make application before I go; and mr. *Samuel Burks*, in *Prince Edward*, will pay any thing that may be due by meſſ. *James* and *Robert Donald* and company.

ROBERT DONALD.

TAKEN up in *Prince George*, a white mare about 8 or 9 years old, 4 feet 7 or 8 inches high, branded on the near buttock with three dots, ſhod before, and is with foal. Poſted, and appraiſed to 12l. 10s.

BETHIA RIVES.

TAKEN up in *Prince George*, a cheſtnut ſorrel mare about 10 or 11 years old, 4 feet 10 or 11 inches high, her hind feet white, a ſtar in her forehead, a ſnip on her noſe, a ſcar over her left eye, three ſaddle ſpots, and ſhod all round. Poſted, and appraiſed to 25l.

BETHIA RIVES.

TAKEN up at my plantation in *Cheſterfield*, three HOGS, *viz.* two barrows, and one ſpayed ſow, white ſandied, with ſome black ſpots, the upper ſide of the right ear half cropped, the left a ſmooth crop.

FRANCIS EPPES.

WARWICK, *Feb.* 20, 1776.

I PURPOSE leaving the colony ſome time in *March*. JOHN MURCHIE.

BLANDFORD, *February* 24, 1776.

THE ſubſcriber being fully empowered by meſſ. *Ramſay, Monteath*, and company, of *Glaſgow*, to tranſact all their buſineſs in this colony, formerly under the management of mr. *William Bogle*, deceaſed, and ſince under mr. *William Robertſon's* direction, earneſtly entreats all thoſe indebted to the ſaid concern to apply and have their accounts ſettled, and grant bonds, on other ſpecialties, that no diſputes may ariſe hereafter. When the preſent unhappy diſputes are at an end, and importation allowed, the ſtore will be well ſupplied with all kinds of goods, and the buſineſs carried on to the uſual extent, by

THOMAS GORDON.

ALL perſons who have any demands againſt the eſtate of mr. *Henry Whiting*, late of the county of *Prince William*, deceaſed, are deſired to make them known to ſir *John Peyton* of *Glouceſter* county, or the ſubſcriber, and alſo in what manner they become due, that reſpect may be had to the dignity of the debts.

HUMPHREY F. WHITING, executrix.

COMMITTED to *James City* jail, a negro woman who calls herſelf MARY-ANNE, and ſays ſhe belongs to *Anthony Walker* at *Peterſburg*. The owner is deſired to take her away, and pay charges.

COMMITTED to *James City* jail, a negro man who ſays his name is TOM, and that he belongs to mr. *John Pride* of *Amelia*. The owner is deſired to take him away, and pay charges.

To be SOLD,

THE plantation where I now live, containing 320 acres of land, about three miles above *Peterſburg*, whereon is a large new brick dwelling-houſe 54 feet by 32, with four rooms, and a flufh paſſage, below ſtairs, and five rooms above, very commodiouſly contrived, and the building well executed, a brick kitchen 32 feet by 16, two rooms below, and two above ſtairs, with all other neceſſary offices, in good repair, and ſeveral orchards of the beſt kind of fruit trees. This ſeat being well known, I think a more accurate deſcription unneceſſary. The time of payment will be made eaſy to the purchaſer, and the terms known by applying to mr. *Thomas Ruffin*, or

(tf) ROBERT NEWSUM.

MECKLENBURG county, *Jan.* 1776.

THE ſubſcriber, from long experience, being fully convinced that the truſting plantations and ſlaves to the management of a ſet of people calling themſelves *overſeers*, will never produce any thing but ruin and deſtruction, is therefore determined to draw the management of what few ſlaves he poſſeſſes within the compaſs of his own perſonal abilities in looking over them, and, by this determination, has, and will have by next fall, between 20 and 30 very beautiful tenements, with a plantation to each, to rent out, either for a ſingle year, or term of years, and can ſupply the tenants with corn, wheat, fodder, and ſtock of all kinds.

Any woman of good character, who underſtands houſe-keeping, teaching young children to read, girls the ſempſtreſs buſineſs, embroidering, &c. and comes well recommended, ſhall meet with very agreeable and ſatisfactory encouragement by applying to

(tf) MATTHEW MARABLE.

ARTICLES of Intelligence, Eſſays, Advertiſements, &c. are thankfully received for this Paper, the Price of which is 12*ſ.* 6*d.* per Annum; Advertiſements inſerted as uſual. PRINTING WORK done with Care and Expedition, and on reaſonable Terms.

FRIDAY, March 15, 1776. SUPPLEMENT. No. 59.

LONDON, *Dec.* 7.

YESTERDAY lord Cornwallis took leave of his majeſty, he being in a few days to ſet out to embark for Virginia. Lord Chewton, ſon to the earl of Waldegrave, goes a volunteer with his lordſhip, who is to command the troops, and will reſign to general Clinton when at Williamſburg (if they ever get there) and act under that officer, or command a detachment, as the exigency of affairs may require.

Eight ſail of the line, and 5000 ſoldiers, are to be employed in reducing the ſouthern colonies, while the main fleet and army are to occupy Boſton. This is the new diſpoſition for the ſpring.

Saturday evening a meeting of the great officers of ſtate was held at lord Suffolk's office, as alſo ſome of the crown lawyers, to deliberate on a number of propoſitions which have been offered by a noble lord in a high office as a ground-work of ſome conciliatory meaſures to be offered to the Americans.

Houſe of Commons, Dec. 11. A motion was made for the third reading of the American reſtraining bill, to which ſome oppoſition was made; but, as every argument which reaſon or ingenuity could ſuggeſt for or againſt the meaſure had been already advanced, the debate was as barren as it was ſhort. At half after 6, the queſtion being put, it was carried by 112 to 16; when the bill was paſſed, and ordered to be ſent up to the Lords.

PHILADELPHIA, *Feb.* 28.

A LETTER form St. Euſtatia, dated Jan. 27th, to a gentleman in this city, ſays: "We have had ſome late arrivals from England, by which we learn that a bill for ſending foreign troops to America had been thrown out by both Houſes. That another for ſeizing American veſſels, it was thought, would ſhare the ſame fate. However, there is one paſſed for indemnifying the captains of the king's ſhips for what they have done, or may do. The papers ſay, there are 36 commiſſioners going to America, to treat with each province ſeparately, for conciliatory meaſures. In the interim, every veſſel that can ſwim is taken up to carry troops, ammunition, and proviſions, to America. General Gage was kept in the channel ſome time before the miniſtry would let him land. It is no doubt that the French have 11,000 men in Martinico and Guadaloupe, and more expected. It is ſaid they have an equal number at St. Domingo. The ſhips of war are very ſtrict here yet; they have taken the ſhip that capt.---- went in from Demarara to this place, with Dutch goods.

"Proviſions are a drug at preſent; the ground proviſions are now come in, which account for it. At St. Kitt's they have had flour from England, which is not very good; it ſtands about 25s. per cwt. landed there; alſo beans, bread, ſtaves, &c. The latter, which we call ſhock ſtaves, coſt them 30l. per 1000."

Monday laſt arrived here the ſhip Hope, capt. Curven, from Briſtol, by which we learn that lord Cornwallis, with five regiments, were to ſail about the middle of December, to rendezvous in Virginia, and a part, or all of them, to proceed for South Carolina. That the act allowing piracy againſt the Americans would probably not receive the royal aſſent till January. That the commiſſioners would ſail about the middle of January, and were to be followed by as large an armament of ſhips and troops as was poſſible for Britain to raiſe in her preſent ſtate. That the miniſtry breathe nothing but *murder;* and it is thought that that the commiſſioners are only ſent out as a ſtop-gap, while they have time to *raiſe troops*, or try the *arts of corruption*. Among the commiſſioners, it is ſaid, are lords Howe and Littleton, capt. Barrington, governours Pownal and Johnſtone, and general Gage, who are all to come out in an 80 or 90 gun ſhip.

On Monday laſt the four battalions, the three artillery companies, and rifle companies, of this city, paraded for the firſt time this ſeaſon, as well as firſt time ſince their ſigning the aſſociation recommended by the aſſembly of this province, when they made a fine appearance.

Extract of a letter from London, *Dec.* 9.

"You may depend on it, that government do not intend to make their grand armament at Boſton; they will only reinforce the army there, ſo as to enable them to maintain their ground, if the provincials do not carry the place this winter. The whole force is to be 26,000 men, including thoſe now in America, and three regiments of Scotch Dutch, who are to come over in the ſpring from Holland, and be ſent to Scotland to recruit, and from thence go to America. No other foreign troops are to be had, nor would the Dutch have given them, but they were paid a moſt extravagant price for them. They are now about 2000, though nominally 3000, which number they are to be made. This whole force is to be divided in America, and ſent to New York, Virginia, and South Carolina, ſo that there will be no very conſiderable army, though ſtrong bodies of perhaps 4, 6, and 8000 men, to thoſe places; but the numbers are not aſcertained, though they will be ſtrong bodies. All commerce is prohibited with America; but commiſſioners are certainly going out, their names not yet mentioned. The Scotch faction prevails at court. The Bedford party are a good deal divided, ſome having joined the oppoſition. Lord Chatham will never again appear out. The minority is conſiderably ſtrengthened. Lord Rockingham is the head of a formidable party; indeed almoſt all the minority are immediately attached to him. Their ſtrength, however, is greatly inferiour to the miniſtry, and will be, except the reſt of the Bedfords (which is the ſtrongeſt part of that party, and the ſupport of miniſtry) leave them, it is impoſſible to ſay what may happen."

ANNAPOLIS, *March* 7.

BY a gentleman from Philadelphia, we are informed that the day before he left that city a gentleman arrived from the camp before Quebeck, who brought advice that general Arnold had received a reinforcement of 600 men before he left that place, and that he met about 1500 more on their march between Montreal and Ticonderoga.

WILLIAMSBURG, *March* 15.

LAST Saturday an expreſs arrived to the Committee of Safety, from the General Congreſs, encloſing commiſſions for col. ANDREW LEWIS, and col. ROBERT HOWE, to rank as brigadier-generals in the continental army. The expreſs continued his route to North Carolina, and we learn carried with him a brigadier-general's commiſſion for col. JAMES MOORE of that province. Private letters by the ſame expreſs mention, that major-general LEE was appointed commander in chief of the ſouthern department; although letters, ſince received, ſay, that he h[illegible] marched for Quebeck, at the head of 8[illegible] men, to reduce that important fortreſs.

Letters from England, of Dec. 12th, ſay, that the packets are ſtopped, and of courſe all communication between Great Britain and the colonies cut off; that 5000 troops were to be immediately embarked for Virginia, to be commanded by general Clinton; and, that there was not the *ſmalleſt proſpect of an accommodation*.

By letters from North Carolina, we have the pleaſure to communicate the following important intelligence, giving an account of the total defeat of the Scotch Highlanders, Regulators, &c. who had lately become very formidable, and threatened much miſchief to the ſouthern colonies, as well as to the glorious cauſe wherein all America is engaged, in ſupport of her invaded rights, and to oppoſe miniſterial tyranny; ſo that we may now ſafely congratulate the publick on the utter demolition of the Tory intereſt in that province, which puts a finiſhing ſtroke to the farther machinations of maſter *Martin*, their wicked and unprincipled governour.----Col. Moore, with a body of 2000 men, having got within about ſix miles of the Tory army, before they thought we were appriſed of their ſcheme to join governour Martin and the ſuccours he expected from Boſton and England, they, to amuſe him, ſent a flag of truce, ſummoning him and his followers to lay down their arms, deliver up their ammunition and ſtores, and repair to the king's ſtandard and take the oath of allegiance; and in the meanwhile, in order to avoid him, they croſſed the river, not knowing that col. Caſwell was on his way up, on the ſame ſide, to join col. Moore, with about 700 men. The colonel, being made acquainted with this manœuvre of the Tories, immediately deſpatched an expreſs to col. Caſwell, who made a forced march, and got near five miles a-head of them, taking poſt between them and the governour, at a bridge over Moore's creek, where he knew they muſt paſs, or fall in with col. Moore's main body. Col. Caſwell, making uſe of his advantageous ſituation, threw up a ſmall intrenchment on the oppoſite ſide of the creek, where he determined to wait for col. Moore, then between 40 and 50 miles diſtant, or, ſhould the Tories incline to attack him, to give them battle, although they were upwards of 2000 ſtrong. In the meanwhile, however, to decoy them, he made a ſmall breaſtwork on the other ſide of the creek, and began to treat with the Tories, who had ſent in a flag of truce, with the like requiſition they made to col. Moore, to lay down their arms, &c. in which caſe they ſhould receive mercy, and be treated with gentleneſs. Col. Caſwell's reply was, that he and his people were reſolved to uſe their arms in the ſervice of their country, and ſhould not lay them down unleſs they were compelled to it. During this negotiation, he took care to let the officers who came with the flag of truce ſee his encampment, and the breaſtwork he had thrown up; and immediately on their departure cauſed it to be levelled, and croſſed to his main poſt, leaving only a ſmall guard behind, whom he ordered to keep up large fires, as if his whole army was there encamped. He did not fail to leave behind him all the marks of a precipitate retreat, taking up the planks of the bridge for about 30 feet, but ſuffered the ſleepers to remain, that the enemy might have it in their power to come over, though but ſlowly, and then made diſpoſitions to prevent his army from being diſcovered by them. Next morning, a good while before day, the whole Tory army marched down to attack him, leaving only a ſmall party behind to guard their baggage. Their diſpoſition was a very good one, the main body being ſupported on each

ſide by a column of flankers; the van led by col. Macleod, ſecond in command, and the rear of the army brought up by brigadier-general Macdonald, both of whom were at the battle of Lexington, and afterwards ſent by general Gage, at governour Martin's requeſt, to head the North Carolina inſurgents. Upon their arrival, finding that col. Caſwell had abandoned his camp, they determined to croſs the bridge in purſuit of him; but as ſoon as they got upon it, his advanced guard challenged them, who were anſwered by Macleod with a diſcharge of his piece, which a ſentinel returned. The enemy then began a heavy firing, although without being able to do the leaſt execution; for col. Caſwell lay ſtill, till he thought a ſufficient number of them had croſſed to play upon with four field-pieces, which he cauſed to be loaded with muſket balls, and were ſo diſpoſed on the intrenchment (in the form of a half-moon) as to rake the bridge on all ſides. About 100 of the enemy having croſſed the bridge, there enſued a moſt dreadful carnage, and they never fired a ſhot after the firſt diſcharge from the artillery, but, being ſeized with a panick, betook themſelves to flight, in the moſt precipitate manner, notwithſtanding every exertion of col. Macleod, who fell ſoon afterwards, and when found had 23 balls and two buck ſhot in him and through him. It is ſuppoſed that ſcarcely one of thoſe returned who got over the bridge, about 30 being killed on the ſpot, between 50 and 60 wounded, and the reſt fell over the bridge and were drowned, owing to the planks and ſleepers being greaſed, which ſerved to trip up their heels in their tumultuous flight, as was expected, and intended. A party of horſemen were ſent in purſuit of general M'Donald, who took him; and the Granville and Orange militia, who were likewiſe ordered to purſue the enemy, took about 400 priſoners, 30 of them officers, whom they delivered to col. Alexander Martin, then on his march from the weſtern parts of the province to join col. Moore with 4000 men. The private men he diſarmed, and ſet at liberty; but the leaders are to be ſent to Halifax, where the Provincial Congreſs meets the ſecond of April, and it is to be hoped will deviſe ſome method to put it out of the power of thoſe abandoned tools of deſpotiſm, parricides to their country, and foes to the liberties of mankind, from purſuing their wicked and diabolical ſchemes in aſſiſting to enſlave America, now the only quarter of the globe where liberty triumphs over oppreſſion; and that ſhe may do ſo, to the lateſt poſterity, ought to be the daily wiſh, and fervent prayer, of all good men.----Providence, which hitherto has ſo remarkably interpoſed in our behalf, was upon this occaſion equally favourable to our glorious cauſe; for, during the whole engagement, there was not a ſingle man killed, and only three were wounded, but not badly.------Two much cannot be ſaid in praiſe of the brave col. Caſwell, who diſplayed ſuch military ſkill as would do honour to any commander; and the officers and ſoldiers who fought under him, although raw and undiſciplined troops, appear to have acted like veterans, thereby doing credit to their country, and adding luſtre to the American arms, which God grant may always be ſucceſsful, againſt tyranny, its aiders and abettors.

A letter ſince come to hand ſays, that about 40 of the Tories were killed, whoſe army conſiſted of at leaſt 2500 men, moſt of whom were taken, with 32 baggage waggons, a quantity of dry goods, &c. alſo 1200 guns, chiefly rifles, with ſwords, dirks, and ſome powder and ball.

On Sunday, March 4th, mrs. B. Maſſenburg departed this life, aged 81 years. She has had 21 children, 46 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren; in all, 75,

On the death of mrs. BARBARA MASSENBURG, *by her grandaughter, aged* 13 *years.*

OH death! whoſe unrelenting hand,
Who ſpreads his ſway o'er all the land,
Depriv'd us all of mothers beſt,
God ſend her ſoul both peace and reſt.
She was the beſt of woman kind,
And great perfection form'd her mind,
Charitable to all, indeed, was ſhe;
She lov'd the Lord, and really ſhe lov'd me.

Mr. PURDIE,

I AM informed a report is prevailing through the colony, that the Committee of Safety were the cauſe of col. Henry's reſigning the command of his battalion, which it is ſuppoſed hath received confirmation from the addreſs of the officers to that gentleman, in which they ſpeak of a glaring indignity having been offered him, if it was not wholly derived from that ſource. That the good people of the country may be truly informed in this matter, the following ſtate of facts is ſubmitted, without comment, to the impartial judgment of the publick.

As ſoon as the laſt Convention had voted the raiſing ſeven new battalions of troops, beſides augmenting the old ones, the Committe of Safety informed our delegates to Congreſs of that vote, deſiring they would uſe their beſt endeavours to have the whole ſupported at continental expenſe; in anſwer to which, a letter was received from the delegates, dated the 30th of December, of which the following is an extract: "The reſolutions of Congreſs for taking "our ſix additional (they would not "agree to take the other two) battalions, into continental pay, and for "permitting an exportation for ſupplying "our countrymen with ſalt, are encloſed." It was ſuppoſed, from hence, an intention prevailed in Congreſs to paſs by the two old battalions, and take ſix of the new ones into continental pay; which, as it was ſaid thoſe officers would take precedency of provincial ones, of equal rank, was generally thought wrong, ſince it would degrade the officers of the two firſt battalions; and, to avoid this, the Convention came to a reſolution the 10th of January, of which the following is part: "Should "the Congreſs adhere to their reſolution "of taking into continental pay no more "than ſix battalions, let it be earneſtly "recommended to them to ſuffer our two "preſent battalions (to be completed "as before mentioned) to ſtand firſt "in the arrangement, ſince otherwiſe "the officers firſt appointed by this Convention, moſt of whom have already "gone through a laborious and painful "ſervice, will be degraded in their ranks, "and there is too much reaſon to apprehend that great confuſion will enſue." The worthy gentleman (not a member of the Committee of Safety) who propoſed this reſolution, informed the Convention he had conſulted ſome of the officers of the firſt regiment, who wiſhed to have their rank preſerved, though it was foreſeen the pay would be reduced.

The Committee of Safety, in a letter to the delegates, dated the 25th of January, encloſing this reſolution, thus write: "You have a liſt of the field-officers as "they ſtand recommended, and we doubt "not receiving their commiſſions in the like "order, with blanks for the proper number of captains and ſubalterns. If, however, the reſolution of Congreſs ſhould "be unalterably fixed to allow us but ſix "battalions, you will pleaſe to attend to "that part of the reſolve which recommends their being the firſt ſix, as a point "of great conſequence to our harmony, "which may be involved the good of the "common cauſe." The Committee of Safety afterwards received the commiſſions wholly filled up for the field-officers of ſix battalions, in the rank they ſtood recommended by the Convention, beginning with col. HENRY, and ending with col. BUCKNER of the 6th battalion, with directions to deliver them. Colonel HENRY was accordingly offered his commiſſion, which he declined accepting, and retired without aſſigning any reaſons.

As to the general-officers, the Convention left them entirely to the choice of the Congreſs, without recommendation; nor did the Committee of Safety, at all, intermeddle in that choice.

A FRIEND to TRUTH.

MR. PURDIE,

THE addreſs of the officers to col. HENRY, and the colonel's reply, has led ſome of our enemies to hope that there would be a great diſcontent in the army, by which our military operations would be retarded, and that there would be a conſiderable murmuring againſt the Congreſs; but they are much miſtaken. It is true the ſoldiers and officers were very unhappy at parting with ſo amiable a commander as col. HENRY, and might be a little imprudent in ſome expreſſions on the occaſion; but there is not a man of them who is not ſo warmly attached to the glorious cauſe he is engaged in as to ſerve with alacrity under any commander, rather than it ſhould ſuffer. And col. HENRY himſelf is a gentleman of ſo much honour, and ſo true a patriot, that he will never countenance a murmur againſt the Congreſs; nay, ſo far from it, that it is highly probable he will ſoon be found in that auguſt aſſembly, urging, with his powerful eloquence, the neceſſity of proſecuting the war with redoubled vigour. I am a ſincere friend to the CONGRESS and to col. HENRY.

Mr. PURDIE,

Envy will merit, as its ſhade purſue;
But, like the ſhadow, proves the ſubſtance true. POPE.

I WAS not ſurpriſed to ſee, in your laſt week's Gazette, the reſignation of P. HENRY, eſq; late commander in chief of all the Virginia forces, and colonel of the firſt regiment. From that great man's amiable diſpoſition, his invariable perſeverance in the cauſe of liberty, we apprehend that envy ſtrove to bury in obſcurity his martial talents. Fettered and confined, with only an empty title, the mere echo of authority, his ſuperiour abilities lay inactive, nor could be exerted for his *honour*, or his *country's good*.

Virginia may truly boaſt, that in him ſhe finds the able ſtateſman, the ſoldier's father, the beſt of citizens, and liberty's dear friend. Clad with innocence, as in a coat of mail, he is proof againſt every ſerpentile whiſper. The officers and ſoldiers who know him are rivetted to his boſom; when he ſpeaks, all is ſilence; when he orders, they cheerfully obey; and in the field, under ſo ſenſible, ſo prudent an officer, though hoſts oppoſe them, with ſhouts they meet their armed foe, the ſure preſages of victory and ſucceſs.

Let us, my countrymen, with grateful hearts, remember that he carried off the ſtandard of liberty, and defeated Grenville in his favourite *ſtamp act*.

While many dreaded, till with pleaſing eye
Saw tyranny before brave HENRY fly.

I am, mr. Purdie, your friend, and a well-wiſher to Virginia.

AN HONEST FARMER.

TWENTY *fine* SLAVES *for ſale at* Hanover *courthouſe, the firſt* Thurſday *in* April, *for ready money.* 2||